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Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

ON THE

Health and Sanitary Condition of
the Borough for the Year 1938.



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BOROUGH OF WEDNESBURY.



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

A. H. KYNASTON, M.R.C.S. (Eng.)

L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H.

1938

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,
WEDNESBURY.

June, 1939.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman – – Councillor Dr. A. Frost.

His Worship the Mayor (Councillor G. W. Price, J.P.)	
Alderman P. Griffiths, J.P.	Councillor D. C. Jackson.
Councillor T. King.	Councillor Dr. G. I. Lambe.
Councillor Mrs. D. M. Wesson.	Councillor L. Whitehouse, J.P.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman – – Councillor Dr. G. I. Lambe.

His Worship the Mayor (Councillor G. W. Price, J.P.)	
Alderman A. Beebee, J.P.	Alderman P. Griffiths, J.P.
Alderman J. Mark, J.P.	Alderman A. H. Westbury, J.P.
Councillor Mrs. M. Bayley, J.P.	Councillor C. Collins.
Councillor Dr. A. Frost.	Councillor L. B. Gardner.
Councillor T. Hollingsworth.	Councillor D. C. Jackson.
Councillor T. King.	Councillor F. A. Wadsworth.
Councillor Mrs. D. M. Wesson.	Councillor L. Whitehouse, J.P.

Co-opted Members :

The Mayoress ; Mesdames Collins, Greenhough, J.P., Hollingsworth,
Jackson, Walton, Whitehouse and Wilson.

AILING BABIES AND CHILDREN'S HOSTEL SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman : The Mayoress.

Councillor Mrs. M. Bayley, J.P. ; Councillor Mrs. D. M. Wesson ;
Mesdames Collins, Greenhough, J.P., Hollingsworth, Jackson,
Walton, Whitehouse and Wilson.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

A. H. Kynaston, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer :

Miss L. M. Allen, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Consultant Obstetrician :

J. S. M. Connell, F.R.C.S.

Veterinary Suregon :

H. Yeomans, M.R.C.V.S.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

H. Topping, A.R.S.I., F.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

A. H. Matthews, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

G. H. Suggitt, M.S.I.A.

Health Visitors and School Nurses :

Miss C. L. Evans, S.R.N., C.M.B. (Superintendent Health Visitor and Child Life Protection Visitor).

Mrs. A. E. Boffey, C.M.B.

Mrs. A. A. Timmins, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.Cert.R.S.I.

Miss S. E. Allan, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.Cert.R.S.I.

Clerks :

Chief Clerk : Mr. J. A. Jackson.

Miss D. Burgess.

Mr. J. W. Barber.

Miss K. E. Hurley.

Mr. A. Higgs.

STAFF AILING BABIES' AND CHILDREN'S HOSTEL.

Matron :

Miss A. Davies, C.M.B.

Staff Nurse :

Miss M. W. Parry, S.R.C.N.

Probationer Nurses :

Miss J. Fellows.

Miss B. Holland.

Miss W. Mills.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE BOROUGH OF WEDNESBURY.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on your Public Health Services for the year 1938, drawn up in accordance with instructions contained in Circular 1728 of the Ministry of Health.

A study of its pages will reveal that the year under review has been one of much activity for the social betterment and improved health conditions of the people of the Borough.

In July, 1933—at the request of the Ministry of Health—the Authority drew up a provisional programme for the clearance of **slum** areas within five years, and it was anticipated that some 560 houses would be demolished—as the result however of more detailed inspection it was found necessary up to the end of 1938 to build no less than 1,581 for the better housing of the people.

It can be said with truth that the majority of the slum dwellings of the Borough have now either been or are in the process of being swept away—it has been a privilege to have been associated with this great national effort which by intensive action in the short space of five years has done so much for the better housing of the people of our land.

On the 18th March, 1938, you received a communication from the Minister of Health as the result of his consideration of the report of his officers' survey of the Council's Public Health Services during the previous autumn.

The report indicated that a reasonable standard of efficiency has been reached by the Council in the discharge of their functions relating to public health. It expressed appreciation of the provision of an improved sewerage system, of the appointment of an Assistant Medical Officer of Health, of the development of the Maternity and Child Welfare Services in general and of the arrangements made by the Council for Diphtheria Immunisation.

The Minister stressed the importance of post-natal examinations, the need for an additional Health Visitor, the provision of dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and children under five years of age, the provision of an " Emergency Unit " and various matters in regard to sanitary administration, particularly pointing out the need for the appointment of a third qualified sanitary inspector.

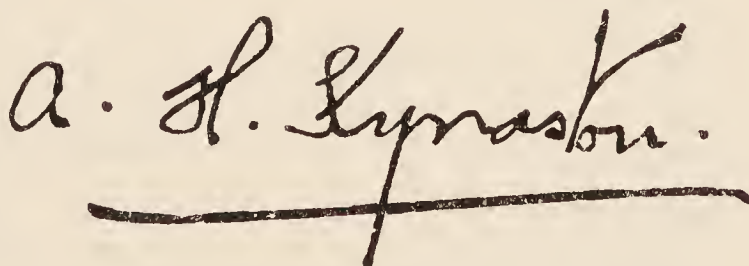
As the result of consideration given to these matters a third Sanitary Inspector commenced duty at the beginning of August ; most of the other recommendations will have been attained at the commencement of the year following the one under review.

The new combined School Clinic and Infant Welfare Centre at Mesty Croft was opened on the 24th March and has already proved an inestimable boon to the mothers and children of this rapidly growing area.

My thanks are due once again to the Chairmen and members of the various Committees for their unfailing courtesy and for their careful consideration of the welfare of the public health. I am grateful to my colleague, Dr. Allen, for her assistance, to every member of the staff for their loyal help in a particularly strenuous year, and to the private practitioners of the Borough and the officers of other departments for most willing co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "A. H. Lynskey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department.

Town Hall, Wednesbury

June, 1939.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	2,025
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid. 1938	33,370
Population, Census, 1931... ..	31,531
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to the Rate Books)	8,168
Rateable Value (1.10. 1938)	£139,169
Sum represented by a penny rate	£500

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The population is mainly artisan, chiefly engaged in iron and steel manufacture, tube manufacture, engineering, hot drop stamping, constructional steelwork, railway carriage building, edge tool manufacture, bolts and nuts manufacture; electrical engineering, ironfounding and kindred trades.

I am indebted to Mr. A. S. Morgan, the Manager of the Employment Exchange for the appended statistics.

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Unemployed at end of						
Men age 21 and over ...	2515	1923	1361	890	656	1204
Young Men (18 — 20 inclusive)	116	81	14	11	18	56
Boys (14–17 inclusive) ...	9	14	4	5	12	14
Women age 21 and over	123	134	76	75	99	221
Young Women (18 – 20 inclusive)	13	19	8	4	5	36
Girls (14–17 inclusive) ...	6	3	6	10	8	15
	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2782	2174	1469	995	798	1546
Made up of :—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wholly unemployed ...	1907	1320	1023	699	520	740
Temporary stoppages or short time workers	875	854	446	296	278	806

The number of contributors to Unemployment Insurance (age 14 to 64) is 11,490 males, 2,978 females, total 14,468.

Mr. J. Parkes, Clerk to the Wednesbury Guardians' Committee, informs me that the number of persons in receipt of Public Assistance at December 31st, 1938 was : Medical relief only, 29 ; Out-door relief, 482 ; Total 511.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total.	Males.	Females.	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	
Live Births :					
Legitimate	591	330	261	...	18.0
Illegitimate	10	4	6		
				Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.	
Stillbirths	27	13	14	...	42.9
				Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	
Deaths	406	222	184	...	12.1

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30) of the Registrar-General's Short List :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.	
No. 29—Puerperal Sepsis	...	—	—
No. 30 Other Puerperal Causes	2	...	3.1
	—		—
Total	2	...	3.1
	—		—

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	71.5
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	71.0
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	100.0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	45
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	2
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	4

The Vital Statistics for the Borough for the year 1938, considered in relation to the Registrar-General's provisional figures

for England and Wales, as set out in Table I., shew that the health of the Borough has been well maintained.

Remembering that in 1897 the general death rate in the Borough was 19.7 and the infantile mortality rate 205.7, we should be not only thankful that the march of time has seen this marvellous betterment in the health of our people, but even more determined that progress shall be maintained, difficult though the spectacular achievements of recent years may be. It is not sufficient that many who died within the first year of life should now be reared or that all should live longer, but rather must our efforts be directed to the very quality of life itself that it may be more carefree—pain free—disability free, so that every boy and girl shall receive from the human machine one hundred per cent. efficient service; to attain this, the laws of health must be more fully taught and appreciated.

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS DURING 1938 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Births		Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District				Rate per 1000 of the Population		Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 Births.	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Of Non-Residents Registered in the District	Of Residents not Registered in the District	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages		Birth	Death		
							Number	Rate per 1000 Net Births	Number	Rate				
1933	32080	579	18.0	272	8.4	3	128	61	105.3	400	12.1	14.4	12.3	64.0
1934	32030	605	18.8	256	7.9	6	99	38	62.4	355	11.1	14.8	11.8	59.0
1935	32420	628	19.3	230	7.0	3	147	64	101.9	380	11.7	14.7	11.7	57.0
1936	32830	600	18.2	233	7.9	5	140	41	68.3	378	11.5	14.8	12.1	59.0
1937	33130	601	18.1	282	8.5	4	131	37	61.5	417	12.5	14.9	12.4	58.0
Av'ge	32498	602	18.4	254	7.9	4	129	48	79.9	386	11.7	14.7	12.0	59.0
1938	33370	601	18.0	240	7.1	2	168	43	71.5	406	12.1	15.1	11.6	53.0

The *Standardised Death Rate* for the Borough of Wednesbury is 13.91 (12.1 x 1.15) and is the *Death Rate* which would have occurred if the age and sex distribution had been the same as that for the country as a whole.

TABLE II.
CAUSES OF DEATH, IN AGE GROUPS AND WARD DISTRIBUTION, YEAR 1938.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1	WARD.										Fe- males	King's Hill.	WARDS.		Wood Green.
		1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and over			Market	Town Hall.	
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever.....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis.....	1	1	—	1	3	—	6	3	3	2	—	8	3	6	3	6
Other Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Paralysis of In- sane, etc.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	12	11	16	25	17	7	9	12
Diabetes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	4	—	—	2	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	12	16	8	3	6	1
Heart Disease.....	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	1	7	22	54	46	27	13	19	31
Aneurysm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Circulatory Diseases ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	4	10	4	1	8	3	5
Bronchitis	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	16	2	5	4	6	7
Pneumonia	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	10	9	9	4	8
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	2	1	2	1
Peptic Ulcer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	—	2	2	1	1
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 yrs.)	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1
Appendicitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	1	1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver.....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Liver Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	1	1	1
Nephritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	4	2	3	5	1	2
Other Puerperal Diseases ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, etc.	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	4
Senility	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	9	3	7	5	8
Senility	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	16	9	6	2	3
Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	6
Violence	—	—	2	1	—	2	2	3	—	11	4	5	6	1	2	16
Other defined diseases	5	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	9	17	7	9	6	—
Causes Ill-defined	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	43	11	10	5	3	8	17	22	33	87	167	184	113	88	76	129

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(1) Particulars of the Public Health Officers of the Authority will be found on page 3.

During the year the resignations of Mr. F. W. O'Hara (1.7.38) on appointment as Chief Sanitary Inspector to the Borough of Bridlington, and Miss C. Hill (1.9.38) on marriage, were received.

Mr. O'Hara had been an Additional Sanitary Inspector for nearly ten years, and had rendered noteworthy service in his department, particularly in regard to controlled tipping, slum clearance, and the initiation of the Borough's Air Raid Precautions Scheme.

Miss Hill had for nearly nine years been chief clerk in the Public Health Department, a period during which great extensions in the Public Health Services have been effected ; that these were accomplished so smoothly was due in no small degree to her efficient and devoted service.

Mr. J. A. Jackson was promoted from the Sanitary Department clerical staff to the Chief Clerkship in the Public Health Department, and in August, Mr. A. H. Matthews and Mr. G. H. Suggitt were appointed as Additional Sanitary Inspectors.

(2) (a) Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided at the County Bacteriological Laboratory and County Chemical Laboratory, Stafford. We are indebted to Dr. Menton, County Bacteriologist, and Mr. Jones, County Analyst, for their ready assistance at all times.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

The motor ambulance provided for the removal of the sick and injured (other than cases of infectious disease) is maintained at the Fire Station (Telephone Number, WED. 2222).

Cases of infectious disease are removed by the ambulance of the hospital to which the patient is to be admitted.

There is close co-operation with neighbouring authorities for the inter-availability of ambulances and the service provided is adequate and expeditious.

(c) **Nursing in the Home.**

The Wednesbury District Nursing Institute, a voluntary body, has a Superintendent and two assistant nurses for the nursing of cases other than confinement and infectious disease.

(d) **Centres and Clinics.**

There are three combined Infant Welfare Centre—School Clinics, those at King's Hill and at Mesty Croft (opened on the 24th March) being of recent construction.

Treatment and diagnosis in connection with special diseases and defects are carried out by arrangement with neighbouring authorities.

(e) **Hospitals—Public and Voluntary.**

None are situated in the Borough but the large number in close proximity are as detailed in the Annual Report for 1930.

(f) **Factories Act, 1937.**

This Act came into operation on the 1st of July, 1938. Matters under Parts I. and VIII. of the Act, which are administered by the Council, are dealt with in the Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector on page 50 and the Home Office Form 572 on which the prescribed particulars are returned will be found reproduced on page 62.

PROPAGANDA.

The National Campaign to encourage the wider use of the Health Services continued during the first three months of the year. In January it dealt specifically with the School Medical Services; in February, the Tuberculosis Dispensaries, Social Hygiene, Doctors and Hospitals; and in March attention was directed to facilities for physical training and recreation.

Full use was made in the Borough of the posters and leaflets supplied and their message was stressed in the addresses which your

Medical Officers have given from time to time at the meetings of various societies at which they have been invited to speak.

The journal, "Better Health," has been distributed in the schools and at the Welfare Centres month by month, as have the various pamphlets issued by the Dental Board of the United Kingdom, the Health and Cleanliness Council and kindred Societies.

Under arrangements made by the Insurance Committee of the County of Stafford and the Borough Council, three lectures were given by Dr. John Hall on Wednesday, October 19th, in the Town Hall, followed by a Health Film Display, a morning lecture for school children, one in the afternoon for women only and an evening lecture for adults only—the attendances were good and the addresses and films were much appreciated.

The laws of health are consistently taught at the individual consultations at school medical inspections and at the Infant Welfare Centres.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Infant Welfare Centres.

Albert Street	Mondays and Thursdays	2-30 p.m.
King's Hill	Tuesdays and Fridays	2-30 p.m.
Mesty Croft	Mondays and Thursdays	2-30 p.m.

Particulars of Attendances, 1938 :—

	Sessions.	New Cases.		Total Attendances.		
		Under 1 year.	1—5 years.	Under 1 year.	1—5 years.	All Ages.
Albert Street	99	193	25	4060	2962	7022
King's Hill	95	137	14	2788	1800	4588
Mesty Croft	89	147	44	2828	2604	5432
Total attendances (all Centres)	...	...	...	...	...	17,042

Percentage attendance notified live births : 70.8.

Total attendances show an increase of 2,585 over 1937, in 1931 they numbered 8,661. In the short space of eight years they have been approximately doubled !

Ante-Natal Clinics.

	Sessions.	New Cases.	Total Attendances
Albert Street—Fridays, 2-30 p.m.	47	236	568
King's Hill—1st, 2nd and 3rd Wednesday, 2-30 p.m.	36	113	278
Number of women who attended the Clinics during the year ...		393	
Percentage of women confined during year who attended Clinics ...		62.6	

Institutional Treatment.

69 mothers were admitted to Hallam Hospital, 24 being referred by the Ante-Natal Clinics, and 45 by private practitioners.

Home Visits by Health Visitors.

To Expectant Mothers.		To Children under 1 year.		To Children between the ages of 1 and 5 years.
First Visits.	Total Visits.	First Visits.	Total Visits.	
106	282	676	2,292	2,194
Total Visits (all purposes) : 4,768.				

Midwifery and Maternity Services.

At the end of the year 8 midwives were in practice in the Borough, 7 of these being in the employ of the Staffordshire County Council, who are the Local Supervising Authority under the Midwives' Acts.

Institutional Provision for Mothers or Children.

The Authority have an arrangement with the County Borough of West Bromwich whereby patients for whom confinement in hospital—either on account of complications or home conditions—is considered advisable may be admitted to Hallam Hospital; costs incurred are recovered according to an approved scale.

The Corporation also maintain an Ailing Babies' Hostel of 18 cots.

Health Visitors.

There are four Health Visitors who devote half their time to the School Medical Service.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

8 cases were notified during the year ; in no instance did impairment of vision result.

Free Milk, Etc.

Liquid or dried milk, etc., was supplied to necessitous expectant and nursing mothers and children up to five years of age on the recommendation of a Medical Officer—in accordance with the Authority's scale, at an approximate cost of £174.

Child Life Protection.

The Superintendent Health Visitor (Miss C. L. Evans) is the Child Life Protection Visitor.

The number of persons who were nursing and maintaining children for reward at the end of the year was one, one child being thus received.

Arrangements for Dental, Orthopaedic, Etc. Cases.

No provision is made for Dental Treatment for expectant and nursing mothers or for children under five years of age.

Orthopaedic cases are referred to Mr. G. P. Mills, F.R.C.S., at the Walsall Orthopaedic Clinic on the second Wednesday in each month.

12 new cases were referred during the year : total attendances numbered 99, and in addition 181 attendances were made for massage. In-patient treatment is provided at the various branches of the Royal Cripples' Hospital, Birmingham. Cost of treatment, appliances provided, etc., is recovered in accordance with an approved scale.

REPORT ON MATERNAL AND INFANT MORTALITY AND THE WORK OF THE ANTE-NATAL CLINICS, INFANT WELFARE CENTRES, AILING BABIES' HOSTEL AND ARTIFICIAL SUNLIGHT CLINIC DURING 1938.

by

DR. MARGARET ALLEN (Assistant Medical Officer of Health).

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were two deaths as the result of pregnancy and child-birth in the Borough in 1938. The rate of 3.1 per 1,000 total

births is only slightly above that for England and Wales, and it is a cause for satisfaction that there was no death from Puerperal Sepsis.

The two fatal cases had ante-natal supervision, one woman having attended her own midwife and a general practitioner, the other the municipal ante-natal clinic and a general practitioner. It was the sixth confinement in each case ; both women had an abnormality of pregnancy which could not be diagnosed until a late stage, although both were X-rayed ; unfortunately, in neither case was the general health such as to contend successfully with additional strain.

Infantile Mortality.

The death rate of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births for the Borough in 1938 was 71.5 ; the corresponding rate for England and Wales is 53.0, the lowest ever recorded for the country, so that the Wednesbury rate is particularly disappointing. No particular climatic conditions or outbreak of disease occurred during the year to account for the rise. With improved housing conditions and adequate health services available, the number of our infant deaths is yet far from the irreducible minimum and unceasing vigilance is necessary to reduce it further.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

In 1938, Ante-Natal Clinics were held each Friday at the Albert Street Centre, at 2-30 p.m., and at the King's Hill Centre on the first, second and third Wednesday of each month at the same time. The number of women attending during the year was 393 and the average attendance per session was 10. Both the total attendances and the number of new cases show a substantial increase on those of 1937.

The number of women in attendance expressed as a percentage of total notified births is 62.6. The corresponding figure for 1937 was 25.7. In England as a whole in 1937 the number of women in attendance at Ante-Natal Clinics expressed as a percentage of total notified births was 54.19. These figures are evidence of the steady progress which is being made.

Co-operation between the various branches of the Maternity Service has been developed and strengthened since the Midwives' Act of 1936 came into force, and the credit for the progress made is due largely to this extended co-operation.

The midwives are in the employ of the Staffordshire County Council who are the supervising authority. Each midwife has been allotted her own clinic day, when she attends the clinic with her expectant mothers, takes part in the examination and notes in her book the doctor's findings. A Health Visitor is in attendance also, and the team of doctor, midwife and health visitor works very satisfactorily.

The expectant mother is advised concerning diet, minor ailments and the general hygiene of pregnancy. Abnormalities detected are referred to general practitioners, to a consultant or to hospital for confinement should this be considered necessary.

Although women are becoming more alive to the importance of ante-natal work, full use of the services available is not yet being made. Whilst most women now consider some ante-natal supervision essential, this supervision in many cases is delayed until the later months of pregnancy. There is danger in such delay and every expectant mother should book with her midwife as soon as she realises her condition. A thorough examination early in pregnancy is of paramount importance. The general condition of the expectant mother is assessed, and if any weakness is found she is referred to her own doctor for treatment. If her health generally is below par, she can be supplied with extra nourishment throughout pregnancy. Should the examination reveal any abnormality there is ample time to take steps to rectify it or, failing that, to ensure a safe confinement. Subsequent examinations are, of course, equally important and it is encouraging to be able to report that most women, having attended once, attend regularly.

It is regrettable that the Borough has not yet made arrangements to assist women attending the ante-natal clinics to get dental treatment. Many expectant mothers are seen with grossly septic teeth and are advised to attend their own dentist, but often the family income is not sufficient to enable them to act upon the advice.

The Departmental Committee on Maternal Mortality, reporting in 1930, commended dentistry as one of the auxiliary services calculated to secure a higher standard of care for the mother

during pregnancy, and the importance of dental care was again stressed in the Report on investigation into Maternal Mortality in 1937.

The Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health in his report for 1937, states:—"There is no doubt that an extension of the arrangements for dental treatment as part of maternity and child welfare work is called for and there is need for further consideration of the most efficient means of its development."

While the provision of dental treatment for expectant mothers is lacking, the maternity services of the Borough cannot be regarded as entirely adequate.

Infant Welfare Centres.

The attendance at all Infant Welfare Centres continues to increase and in 1938 record attendances were made.

During the year 9,676 children under one year of age and 7,366 children between the ages of one and five years attended, the total attendances being 17,042. The percentage attendance of total notified live births was 70.6.

On March 24th a new School Clinic—Infant Welfare Centre was opened at Mesty Croft and is being very much appreciated. Two sessions are held weekly and, although large numbers attend, owing to the suitability of the premises there is no congestion. With the provision of a new clinic for the central area, the Wednesbury Welfare Centres would be housed most excellently.

At the centres, advice is given on the feeding and general management of children. The Welfare Centre is not a treatment centre and babies and young children who are ailing in any way ought to be taken to a general practitioner. The function of the Infant Welfare Centre is two-fold, educative and preventive, to instruct the mothers of healthy babies and children in child welfare so that ill health may be prevented.

Knowledge of infant feeding is becoming more widespread and mothers generally are feeding children more sensibly. Owing partly to the introduction of the milk scheme in schools, parents are beginning to realise the value of milk in a toddler's diet and it is less usual than formerly to find small children addicted to tea.

Parents are, however, very slow to appreciate the value of sleep to a young child. In this respect the modern child appears to be worse off than children of previous generations. It is all too common, especially in the summer months, to see children at the centres and in school, pale, listless and heavy-eyed from lack of sleep. Children vary in the amount of sleep they require but, in general, children of from one to five years should sleep about 14 hours a day, including a mid-day sleep, from 5 to 7 years about 12 hours, and from 7 to 10 years about 11. During the rest of childhood ten hours are usually sufficient.

Facilities for gratuitous immunisation against diphtheria continue to be available at the Welfare Centres. Protection is offered to each child on attaining the age of one year. In 1938 68 children over the age of one and under five years of age were immunised; this figure is an increase on that for 1937, but is pitifully small. In America and Canada where immunisation is done on a large scale, diphtheria has almost disappeared. In this country diphtheria is the commonest single cause of death among school children, and it is sad to think that the stamping out of such a dread disease is being retarded by the apathy of the public.

I would like to tender our sincere gratitude to the voluntary workers who attend at the Welfare Centres; their loyal and devoted services are very greatly appreciated.

Ailing Babies' and Children's Hostel.

DISEASES TREATED DURING YEAR 1938.

Group.		Prematurity and Wasting	Dietetic Disorders	Rickets	Debility following acute illness	Anaemia	Chronic Bronchitis	Broncho- Pneumonia	Sub-normal Nutrition
Babies	...	12	16	2	3	—	4	—	—
Toddlers	...	—	—	3	12	2	2	2	20

The municipal hostel contains 18 cots and is for the treatment of ailing babies and toddlers up to the age of five years. Most of the patients are admitted from the Welfare Centres, but cases are

also referred by general practitioners. During the year 78 patients received treatment, 64 new patients being admitted. There were three deaths. Of the 78 patients treated, 37 were babies under one year of age, 41 being between the ages of one and five. The accompanying table shows the type of illness from which the patients suffered.

Of the three deaths, two were cases of wasting occurring in babies under one year ; the third was a case of broncho-pneumonia in a toddler sent in by its own doctor, death occurring three hours after admission.

The hostel is not a hospital and is not suitable for cases of acute illness. It is intended for weakly debilitated babies and toddlers whose survival depends on an adequate diet, rest and skilled nursing, factors not easily obtained in the poor homes from which most of these children come.

Owing to the type of illness from which the patients suffer, the period of treatment is necessarily lengthy. For these cases an institution such as the hostel is invaluable as children's hospitals with their long waiting list find it impossible to accommodate them.

Parents on the whole appreciate fully the value of the hostel in the preservation of life and show themselves ready to take advantage of its services.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Hostel Sub-Committee for their great interest in its work ; to the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Kynaston) for his continued help and supervision, and to the Matron (Miss A. Davies) and the nurses for their loyal and unstinted services.

The Hostel is very grateful to all its kind friends who have sent gifts of toys and clothing during the year. A special debt of gratitude is due to the girl students of the County Commercial College for the many beautiful garments they made and presented to the patients.

Artificial Sunlight Clinic.

The Out-Patient Department for Ultra-Violet Ray treatment held at the Hostel twice weekly continues to be a most useful auxiliary of our Maternity and Child Welfare work. 44 patients were treated during the year, total attendances numbering 741.

Table III.

CAUSES OF DEATH UNDER ONE YEAR IN AGE GROUPS AND WARD DISTRIBUTION.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	TOTAL	WARDS			
											Kings Hill	Market	Town Hall	Wood Green
Measles ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-
Whooping Cough ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningitis ...	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	3	1	-	1	1
Convulsions ...	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	2	3	1	2
Bronchitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	8	2	-	1	1
Pneumonia ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	4	1	-	2	-
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ...	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syphilis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Premature Birth ...	7	1	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	2	1	5	1	1
Congenital Debility ...	3	-	1	-	5	-	1	-	-	9	2	2	4	1
Heart Disease ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Other Circulatory Diseases ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Other Causes ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	1	1
TOTAL	11	3	1	2	17	6	8	6	6	43	7	10	14	12

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The whole of the area is supplied by the South Staffordshire Water Works Company ; the supply is satisfactory in quality and ample in quantity.

Mr. Fred J. Dixon, M.Inst.C.E., M.I.Mech.E., Engineer-in-Chief to the Company, reports :—

“ The water normally supplied in Wednesbury is a mixture of underground waters from two different localities.

Source No. 1 consists of a group of 7 pumping stations in the Cannock Chase District. Source No. 2 consists of a group of 5 pumping stations in the district between Sutton Coldfield and Lichfield.

Both these groups pump water from wells and bore-holes sunk in the new red sandstones of the Triassic Geological period.

In the case of the group supplying water from Source No. 1, the water is treated at four of our pumping stations as follows :—

Station 1.—The water is passed through rapid mechanical filters for the elimination of a slight iron content.

Station 2.—The water is sterilised by the Ozone treatment.

Stations 3 and 4.—The water is treated with chlorine and ammonia.

In the case of the pumping stations supplying water from Source No. 2, the water at one of the stations is treated with chlorine and ammonia.

At all of the other pumping stations the water is pumped direct to the consumer, without treatment.

There are no large storage reservoirs on these systems, as the storage is underground, but there are service reservoirs which act as balancing tanks to maintain the supply during periods of maximum demand.

With regard to bacteriological and chemical control, the water at each source of supply is examined bacteriologically and chemically at least once a month. These examinations are continued at all service reservoirs, one of which comes within the Borough boundary. Further tests are made of the water at taps in the towns supplied, the points in Wednesbury being the Company's premises at Wood Green, or Wednesbury Reservoir.

23 samples of water were taken actually within the Borough last year, and these showed both bacteriologically and chemically that the water supplied to the Borough was pure and wholesome. In fact, all the samples were free from Coliform Bacteria."

From time to time samples are submitted independently to the County Laboratories and reports from Dr. Menton and Mr. Jones on samples taken in December are appended :—

Staffordshire County Council,
Public Health Department,
County Bacteriological Laboratory,
Martin Street, Stafford,
7th December, 1938.

Report of Bacteriological Examination of a sample of water submitted on 1st December, 1938, at 1-30 p.m., by Dr. A. H. Kynaston, Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Wednesbury, per H. Topping, Sanitary Inspector.

Description of sample :

No. W.16 from tap over wash basin at Myvod House Babies' Hostel, Wood Green Road, Wednesbury.

Count :

On nutrient agar after 48 hours'			
incubation at 37°C.	...	...	3 colonies per ml.
On nutrient agar after 72 hours'			
incubation at 20-22°C.	...	...	9 colonies per ml.

Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive Coli) None per 100 ml.
after 48 hours'
incubation at 37°C.

Remarks :

The Ministry of Health Report No. 71 suggests that when a public water supply contains not more than two presumptive coli per 100 ml. the sample may be regarded as reasonably satisfactory.

This sample shows no bacteriological evidence of recent sewage pollution.

(Signed) J. MENTON, Bacteriologist.

Staffordshire County Council,
Chemical Laboratory,
County Buildings, Stafford,
7th December, 1938.

To Borough of Wednesbury.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of water, No. W15, taken from tap over wash basin from S.S.W.S. Co.'s main at Myvod House Babies' Hostel, Wood Green Road, Wednesbury, 11 a.m., 1st December, 1938. Submitted the same day by hand.

				Parts per 100,000.
Total Solid Matter dried at 212° F.	...	...	...	54.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	Nil.
Albuminoid	...	...	...	0.0023
Nitric Nitrogen	...	...	...	0.15
Chlorine	...	...	...	17.2
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	...	...	...	0.003
Appearance	...	...	...	Clear
Injurious Metallic Contamination	...	...	...	None
pH Value	...	...	...	7.4
Hardness before Boiling	...	...	...	10.72°
Hardness after Boiling	...	...	...	3.40°
Temporary Hardness	...	...	...	7.32°

This water is chemically of satisfactory quality and if passed bacteriologically may be considered safe for drinking.

(Signed) E. V. JONES, F.I.C. County Analyst.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Mr. Arthur Booth, M.I.M.C.E., F.R.I.B.A., M.I.Struct.E., Borough Engineer, reports :—

Sewerage.

The branch connections from the old Ejectors (now taken out) to the Valley Sewer were completed in March and the compressing plant at the Outfall Works closed down. The whole of the $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles of Valley Trunk Sewer is now in use.

Sewers have been laid by the Corporation on the Crankhall Lane East and Old Park Estates to serve 104 and 192 houses respectively, the majority of which have been completed.

Three small sewer extensions have been made during the year—Beebee Road, Piercy Street and Crankhall Lane.

Storm Water Drainage.

Main storm water drains have been laid by the Corporation on the two Housing Estates above mentioned.

Sewage Disposal.

The media of one choked percolating filter has been washed and re-graded.

Rainfall.

The total rainfall for the year was 24.55 inches.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, together with the Tabular Statement, commences on page 39.

Shops and Offices.

Particulars of any action taken are recorded in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

Camping Sites.

There are no camping sites in the Borough.

Smoke Abatement.

This subject is dealt with in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

The Corporation own indoor first and second-class baths in Walsall Street; the water is chlorinated and controlled by bacteriological and chemical tests. There are no open-air swimming pools in the area.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

1. During the year 56 premises were dealt with.

(a) Council Houses.

(i.) Found to be infested	...	8
(ii.) Disinfested	...	10

(b) Other houses.

(i.) Found to be infested	...	42
(ii.) Disinfested	...	46

Two Council and four other houses were twice disinfested.

2. Infested houses have the picture rails, architraves around doors and windows removed if suspected; if infested they are destroyed on a certificate of the Sanitary Inspector. Bedding and old articles if badly infested are destroyed, otherwise bedding and soft goods are treated by steam disinfection, the house and furniture being sprayed with Zaldecide insecticide and in addition fumigated with Sulphur Dioxide, Formaldehyde or Cimex.

3. In order to ensure that belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council Houses, the Housing Manager forwards to the Chief Sanitary Inspector names and addresses of all families to be moved. They are visited by a Sanitary Inspector, a thorough inspection is made and where necessary bedding, mattresses, etc., are removed for steam disinfection, old and useless articles are destroyed, the remainder of the furniture is treated with insecticide and if necessary fumigated.

4. The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority.

5. Mr. T. W. Burns, Housing Manager, reports as follows on the measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing:—

During the year 476 families were re-housed : from Demolition and Clearance Areas, 377 ; Exchanges and re-lets, 99 ; a number of the “ exchanges ” being made in order to abate overcrowding.

Bedding was supplied on the Hire Purchase System to 33 cases at a cost of £35 14s. 6d. This amount being repaid by weekly instalments varying from 6d. to 2/-. The demand for this service is however decreasing, as it is found that as soon as the people know that their removal is imminent they make arrangements with traders with whom they are in the habit of dealing.

All prospective tenants are visited by either the Manager or a member of his staff, and careful note is taken of the condition of the house and furniture, all necessary particulars for the Housing Department records being obtained. On the morning of the removal, bedding is taken to the Sanitary Depot and steamed to obviate the possibility of transferring vermin. Afterwards the goods are delivered to the new house. Doubtful goods are, with the sanction of the tenants, destroyed, and it is pleasing to note that in practically all cases we receive the assistance of the tenants in this direction.

Shortly after possession has been taken, the new house is visited by one of the female Inspectors. If conditions are found to be satisfactory, appropriate entries are made on the records cards. In the case of unsatisfactory cases, the card is entered up but not filed away and the case is re-visited until satisfactory conditions are attained, when the card is filed with the case paper. Tenants are instructed how to avoid vermin by keeping picture rails, skirtings, door frames, architraves, lamp shades, etc., free from cobwebs and dust. They are also instructed how to recognise the presence of bugs, bugs' eggs, etc., and how to keep baths, drains, lavatories, cooking utensils, stores, etc. clean, and are given every information to enable them to maintain a clean and healthy home.

Tenants are also instructed to inform the Housing Department immediately the presence of vermin is suspected or observed. On receipt of this information the Sanitary Department is notified and immediate action is taken to eradicate the pests ; after disinfestation the rooms are re-decorated.

The duties of visiting are undertaken by Miss E. Dallard (whole time) and Mrs. Houghton (part time), who were appointed in September. The Department suffered a great loss by the death of Miss E. Hartland, who was our first female inspector.

During the year under review 1,660 visits were made ; 1,159 proved quite satisfactory, 185 were unsatisfactory and necessitated re-visiting—some of them several times, and 318 needed re-visiting a second time on account of “ no answer ” on the first visit. In a few cases admission was refused, but further action from the office enabled inspection to be carried out.

Each tenant, when the key is handed over, is given a Municipal Tenants' Handbook, containing full information regarding house management, cleanliness, gardening, etc., and the Municipal Services available for ratepayers.

4. **Schools.**

The sanitary condition and water supply of the schools are satisfactory. For the prevention of the spread of infectious disease the recommendations of the joint Memorandum on Closure of and Exclusion from School (1927) are carried out and are reported on annually in the School Medical Officer's Report.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Statistical information in regard to this Section will be found on page 42 of the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Slum Clearance.

On the 25th January an Inquiry was held by P. A. Hopkins, Esq., O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., an Inspector of the Ministry of Health, in regard to 36 houses recommended for demolition in the Wood Green Clearance Order.

Particulars of individual houses represented for demolition during 1938 under Section 11 of the Housing Act of 1936 are as follows :—

Number of houses represented	...	...	220
Number of Demolition Orders made	...	...	195
Number of Houses Undertakings accepted	...	...	23
Number of Houses consideration deferred	...	...	2
Number of Appeals	...	...	—
Number of Houses involved in Appeals	...	...	—
Appeals withdrawn (houses involved)...	...	...	—
Appeals dismissed (houses involved)	...	...	—
Appeals upheld (houses involved)	...	...	—

During the year the number of houses demolished and persons displaced were :—

	Houses Demolished.	Persons Displaced.
Clearance Areas	21	812
Individual Demolition Order	22	736
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	43	1548
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The vacated houses not already demolished have subsequently been taken down.

Mr. Arthur Booth, F.R.I.B.A., M.I.M.C.E., M.I.Struct.E., Borough Surveyor and Architect, has given me the following particulars regarding houses erected by the Corporation :—

Number of Houses erected from 1st January to 31st December, 1938.

(a)	By the Corporation, Housing Act, 1930	...	...	...	587
(b)	By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	225
Total					812

Number of Houses erected from 1st January, 1919, to 31st December, 1938 :—

(a)	By the Corporation :				
	Housing Act, 1919	...	...	...	362
	Housing Act, 1924	...	...	...	1060
	Housing Act, 1925	...	...	...	11
	Housing Act, 1930	...	...	...	1581
	Cemetery Lodge	...	...	...	1
					3015
(b)	By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	1015
Total					4030

Of the houses built for Slum Clearance under the Housing Act of 1930, 18 were erected in 1933, 216 in 1934, 340 in 1935, 327 in 1936, 93 in 1937 and 587 in 1938.

Two-roomed bungalows for old couples and specially sited and constructed houses for cases of tuberculosis are still being erected according to requirements.

Overcrowding.

The appropriate sections of the Housing Act, 1936 were in operation during the year.

No houses were built specifically for cases of overcrowding but as the result of slum clearance 62 overcrowded families were re-housed ; re-let Council houses were also the means whereby certain other cases were dealt with.

Small Dwellings Acquisition Act.

The Borough Treasurer, Mr. J. S. Hodges, informs me that under the above Act advances totalling £6,570 were made in respect of 16 houses built during the year and that since 1934 when the Act was brought into operation in the Borough, £24,960 has been loaned in respect of 52 houses.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

I am indebted to Dr. W. D. Carruthers, County Medical Officer of Health, for the following particulars of samples taken :—

Milk Samples taken during 1938 under the Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders :—

Ordinary Milks :	Total	17
Cleanliness—Satisfactory ...	...	7
Unsatisfactory ...	...	10
Tubercle Bacilli found ...	...	—
	Total	21

Cleanliness.

Specially Designated :	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory	T.B.
Tuberculin Tested ...	6	—	—
Accredited ...	1	1	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ...	2	—	—
Pasteurised ...	10	1	—

The 13 Pasteurised samples all passed the Phosphatase Test. Under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1938 :—

Article of Food.	No. of Samples	Genuine	Adulterated
Milk ...	26	17	9
General Foods	20	20	—

Nine samples of milk were deficient in fat and these were all traced to the same source, which was a farm in Shropshire. Samples were taken at the farm and it was found that the deficiency was due to natural causes in the cows themselves.

Further details in regard to the milk supply and action taken in regard to meat and other foods, together with tabular statement in regard to Carcasses Inspected and Condemned will be found on pages 46 to 49 of the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

The Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food is carried out at the County Laboratories, Stafford.

The stressing of the importance of adequate nutrition has continued on lines detailed in my last Annual Report, page 28.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Table IV. on page 36 shows the incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in the area during the year, 1938.

The number of notifications, 217, compares with 223 in 1937, 219 in 1936, 175 in 1935, 241 in 1934 and 179 in 1933.

Scarlet Fever notifications, 19, is the smallest number I am able to trace in the Borough records—in 1903 they numbered 486 !

Diphtheria, however, 90 notifications, has been unusually prevalent, the highest number I can find recorded previously being 81 in 1904. The incidence was evenly spaced through the year, 19 cases being notified in the first quarter, 22 in the second, 20 in the third and 29 in the last quarter.

There was never any epidemic due to a discoverable cause the removal of which brought about extinction of the disease ; for examination of the notifications shows that scarcely a week went by without the notification of one or more cases ; Diphtheria was in fact endemic throughout the year.

Generally the disease was not severe in type—some cases being almost devoid of signs and symptoms ; in two instances further investigation proving the organisms to be avirulent—there were, however, 6 deaths, as against 23 deaths from Diphtheria and Membranous Croup recorded in 1904.

During the year 568 throat swabs were sent for examination to the County Laboratory, 92 being positive for Diphtheria, 476 negative.

Immunisation.

Protection against Diphtheria :—

The Council's Scheme, inaugurated in September, 1936, continued in operation during the year, immunisation being offered

to children of from one to five years of age through the Infant Welfare Centres, and to children of five to eight years inclusive in attendance at the Elementary Schools of the Borough.

The material used was T.A.F., 3 x 1 c.c. injections being given at not less than two-weekly intervals.

Immunising material is supplied free to doctors when parents prefer treatment to be carried out by their usual medical attendant, fees incurred are the responsibility of the parent.

No pre-Schick tests have been made nor has any post-Schick testing been carried out; up to the end of 1938, 635 children have completed a course, through the School Medical Service and 128 through the Infant Welfare Centres, particulars are as follows :

				1—5 years of age.	5—8 years of age.
1936	...	...	...	32	165
1937	...	...	...	28	302
1938	...	...	...	68	168

When a case of Diphtheria occurs in a home, the other children are often brought immediately for immunisation; this, of course, is equivalent to taking out an insurance policy after the fire has occurred—the ideal time for this protective treatment is immediately after the first birthday when the disease is most likely to be contracted with gravest effect.

It must be realised that sporadic acceptance by parents though great benefit is conferred on the individual immunised cannot affect the general diphtheria incidence and mortality to any great extent.

The immunisation of between 50 and 60 per cent. of the child population, including the pre-school age group, must be secured and maintained to produce any material effect on the general incidence.

There is thus necessary an intensive and sustained propaganda to secure a protection rate equal to at least one-half the number of births each year.

School Intimations of Infectious Disease.

Absence from school on account of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and other major infectious diseases, is immediately notified to the Medical Officer of Health who is also School Medical Officer, other diseases unless incidence be marked are notified on the Friday afternoon of each week. The rendering of these Forms (S.N.) is of the utmost value in checking official notifications and in securing observation of contacts.

Hospital Accommodation.

The high incidence of Diphtheria accentuated the lack of hospital accommodation for cases of infectious disease existing in South Staffordshire and it is gratifying to record that during the year progress has been made with the formation of a Joint Board for this area, a Local Inquiry being held at the Town Hall, Wednesbury, on Thursday, the 9th June, 1938, by Norman F. Smith, Esq., M.A., M.D., an Inspector of the Ministry of Health, as the result of which intimation was received on the 4th of August that the Minister had decided to issue a provisional order and on the 11th December that the provisional order was shortly to be submitted to Parliament for confirmation.

Tuberculosis.

Table V., on page 37 is a return of the New Cases and Mortality during 1938.

Total notifications numbered 31, deaths 20: in 1913 notifications numbered 100, deaths 51. At the end of the year the numbers on the Register were :—

Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.		
Males	...	62	Males	...	39
Females	...	57	Females	...	15
<hr/>			<hr/>		
119			54		
<hr/>			<hr/>		
Total (all forms)			...		
			173.		

During the year 155 Sputum Tests were made, 25 being positive, 130 negative.

Close co-operation is maintained with the Tuberculosis Officer (Dr. D. J. Loughran),

The Tuberculosis Dispensary in Russell Street is administered by the County Council. Sessions are held on Mondays from 5 to 7 p.m. for men and on Wednesday mornings from 10 to 12 for women and children.

It was not necessary for any action to be taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Venereal Disease.

Cases for diagnosis and treatment are referred to the Special Department at the Guest Hospital, Dudley.

Times of Sessions :—

Men—Mondays and Fridays, 9-30 to 12-30 and 5 to 7.

Women and Children—Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5 to 6 ; Wednesdays, 2-30 to 4 p.m. ; and Fridays, 10 to 12 a.m.

Bacteriological work in connection with venereal disease is carried out by Dr. J. Menton, at the County Laboratory, Stafford.

Vaccination.

Dr. G. E. V. Morris, the Public Vaccinator, reports as follows :

Vaccination Report for the year ending December 31st,
1938.

Number of Births ...	...	...	618
Vaccinations	...	...	43
Declarations	...	...	469
Deaths	...	...	16
Postponements		...	3
Removals	...	...	20
Cases to be dealt with by Vaccination Officer		...	67
Total ...	...	...	618

43 children vaccinated out of 618 births.

This appalling state will continue unless some other system of supervising the cases is undertaken.

(Signed) GEORGE E. V. MORRIS,

26th January, 1939.

TABLE IV.
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) IN AGE GROUPS
AND WARD DISTRIBUTION.

DISEASE.	AGE GROUPS.												Total cases notified	WARDS.				Cases Ad- mitted to Hospital	Deaths
	Un- der 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		King's Hill.	Market	Town Hall	Wood Green		
Small-Pox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.....	-	-	-	-	1	12	2	-	4	-	-	-	19	1	6	2	10	5	-
Diphtheria	-	-	2	6	9	46	18	6	3	-	-	-	90	28	10	11	41	59	6
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	3	3	5	1	6	6	5	8	10	16	6	70	27	13	5	25	4	2
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	5	4	8	2	21	4	8	1	8	2	30
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	1	1	1	5	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	9	3	6	11	13	65	26	11	27	14	24	8	217	64	39	23	91	72	38

1938. Incidence Rate per 1,000 of the population :— Scarlet Fever 0.56 ; Diphtheria 2.99 ; Pneumonia 2.09 ;
Puerperal Pyrexia 0.209 ; Erysipelas 0.22

TABLE V.
TUBERCULOSIS — NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1938.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males.	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0—1 ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
1—5 ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
5—15 ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 ...	2	4	1	—	2	2	—	—
25—35 ...	2	4	—	1	4	2	—	—
35—45 ...	2	2	—	—	2	1	—	—
45—55 ...	4	2	—	—	—	3	—	—
55—65 ...	2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and upwards ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	12	14	4	1	10	8	2	—

Ratio of Non-Notified Tuberculosis Deaths to Total Tuberculosis Deaths : 1 in 20.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
BOROUGH OF WEDNESBURY.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I submit the Annual Report containing particulars of the work carried out by the Sanitary Department during the year ended the 31st day of December, 1938.

A large amount of time and attention has been devoted to work in connection with the Housing Acts, in addition to other routine work.

I trust that such of the overcrowded cases as the law permits will be dealt with during the next year.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

HERBERT TOPPING,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Inspections.

The total number of inspections and visits for all purposes amounted to 5,882, a figure which must be regarded as very satisfactory. Of these, 771 were made whilst work was in progress. The details of the various inspections will be found in Table VII.

Notices Served.

195 Preliminary Notices were served, in addition to a large number of letters sent to owners, agents or occupiers, requiring them to carry out sanitary improvements.

In accordance with your instructions, 57 Statutory Notices were served, particulars of which are set out in Table VIII.

Sanitary Improvements Effected.

A large number of sanitary improvements were effected, pursuant to the Notices served, particulars of which will be found in Table X.

Legal Proceedings.

In two cases legal proceedings were instituted and particulars of the results are set out in Table IX.

Work Carried out in Default.

In two cases—respecting fourteen houses—where the owners failed to comply with Statutory Notices served upon them, the Council authorised the work to be carried out in default and the cost involved was £447 19s. 1d.

Provision of Houses.

During the year 812 new houses were provided; 587 were built by the Council and 225 by private enterprise.

Clearance Areas.

Particulars respecting Clearance Areas will be found in the Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

Undertakings.

A number of draft undertakings affecting many houses were prepared, some of which were of a very complex nature and considerable time was taken in their preparation.

Individual Demolition Order Procedure.

220 houses were represented as unfit for human habitation ; Demolition Orders were made respecting 195. In 10 cases undertakings affecting 23 houses were accepted, and in 1 case, affecting 2 houses, consideration was deferred.

Appeals.

Only one appeal under the Housing Act was entered in Court and was subsequently withdrawn.

Overcrowding.

At the beginning of the year 559 houses were overcrowded according to the standard of the Housing Act, 1936.

Unfit Houses.

TABLE I.

ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS WITH RESPECT TO UNFIT HOUSES.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	1179
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...					2817
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	...	...	406
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...					406
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	400
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	89

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	9
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	21
---	-----	-----	----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners	...	...	...	3
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	2

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	39
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners	...	...	...	...	27
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	...	...	12

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	195
---	-----	-----	-----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	22
--	-----	-----	----

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. —

4. Housing Act, 1936 (Part IV.). Overcrowding.

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	559
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	726
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	2700
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	10
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	62
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	424
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	3
(e)		Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	...	...	...	...	—

Eradication of the Bed Bug.

During the year systematic efforts were made to eradicate the bed bug.

1. Infested Houses.

The number of houses found to be infested with bugs was :

Council houses	...	...	...	...	8
Other houses	...	...	...	...	42

The number of houses disinfested was :

Council houses	...	...	...	...	10
Other houses	...	...	...	...	46

In six cases the houses were found to be infested on more than one occasion.

2. Method employed to Free Infested Houses of Bugs.

- (a) Bedding, etcetera, is removed to the Sanitary Depot for disinfection by steam.
- (b) Articles badly infested and of little or no value are destroyed and in some cases bedding, etcetera, was replaced by the Council at a cost of £35 14s. 6d., which will be repaid to the Council by instalments.
- (c) The houses were sprayed with Zaldecide and fumigated with either Cimex, sulphur or formaldehyde.
- (d) When necessary, picture rails, architraves around doors and windows and skirting boards, etcetera, are removed and if found to be infested, burnt.

3. Method employed to ensure that belongings of a Tenant are Free from Vermin before removal to a Council House.

The Housing Department notify the Sanitary Department of all people to be removed to a Council house, and, in this connection 476 houses were visited by a Sanitary Inspector and arrangements made for all old and useless articles to be destroyed, for the bedding, etcetera, to be removed to the Sanitary Depot for disinfection by steam, and the infested furniture fumigated with sulphur in the van and afterwards sprayed with insecticide before it is removed to a Council house.

- 4.** The whole of the disinfestation work is carried out by the employees of the Sanitary Department of this Corporation and no charge is made.

5. General.

So far the results have justified the methods employed. Owing to its danger and various other reasons it was not thought advisable to adopt the method of disinfestation by hydrocyanide gas.

Infectious Diseases.

The cases of infectious disease notified were investigated and where the patient was removed to hospital disinfection was carried out after removal. Where the patient was nursed at home the case was visited from time to time during the progress of the

disease, printed instructions were given for preventing the spread of the disease and the necessary disinfection was carried out at the termination of the period of infectivity.

Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders.

The particulars respecting the work in pursuance of these Statutes are as follows :—

1. REGISTERED.

Number of cowkeepers	...	...	...	1
Number of dairies, milkshops, etc.	...	...	...	43
Number of dairymen	...	...	...	137

2. APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION.

		No. of Applications	Granted.	Refused.
Cowkeepers ...	...	—	—	—
Dairies, Milkshops, etc.		—	—	—
Dairymen ...	...	71	71	—

3. VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Farms and Cowsheds (cows kept)	...	...	4
Dairies, Milkshops, etc. (no cows kept)		...	153

4. MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

The particulars of the Licences granted under this Order are as follows :—

LICENCES.					GRADE.		
Number Issued	Producers	Bottlers	Dealers	Supplementary	Tuberculin Tested	Accredited	Pasteurised
23	—	—	5	18	8	6	9

Slaughterhouses and Food Supplies.

There are five slaughterhouses on the register, as follows :

Registered	1
Licensed (duration indefinite)	3
Annual Licences	1

Only two of the slaughterhouses are at present in use.

Over 372 visits were made to the slaughterhouses. The owners voluntarily destroyed or surrendered diseased or unsound food when their attention was called to its condition, the total weight of meat destroyed being over 9 tons 18 cwts., together with offals, as shown in Table III.

108 visits were paid to the markets and the food exposed for sale was inspected.

Other premises where food is sold were also visited and the food exposed for sale inspected.

Table III shows the number of animals slaughtered and inspected and the particulars of food condemned and destroyed.

TABLE II.

BACTERIOLOGICAL, CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Particulars of the Bacteriological (B), Chemical (C) and Biological (Bi) Examinations of Water, Milk and Foods made during the year.

No.	B, C, or Bi.	Description of Sample.	Nature of Examination.	Results.
1	C	Drinking water ...	Purity ...	Satisfactory
2	B	Drinking water ...	Purity	Satisfactory No B. Coli
3	B	Swimming bath-water 1st Class	Purity	Satisfactory No B. Coli
4	B	Swimming bath-water 2nd Class	Purity ...	Satisfactory No B. Coli
5	B & Bi.	Milk (Loose) ...	Cleanliness Tuberculosis	Methylene Blue Test unsatisfactory. B. Coli in 1/1000th c.c. No tubercular bacilli.

TABLE II.—continued.

No.	B, C, or Bi.	Description of Sample.	Nature of Examination.	Results.
6	B & Bi	Pasteurised Milk ...	Cleanliness Tuberculosis	Phosphatase test satisfactory. Bacteriological count 20 per c.c. No tubercular bacilli.
7	C	Swimming bath-water 1st Class	Purity	Satisfactory
8	C	Swimming bath-water 2nd Class	Purity	Satisfactory
9	B	Swimming bath-water 1st Class.	Purity	Satisfactory. No B. Coli.
10	B	Swimming bath-water 2nd Class.	Purity	Satisfactory. No B. Coli.
11	B & Bi	Pasteurised Milk ...	Cleanliness ... Tuberculosis	Phosphatase test satisfactory. Bacteriological count 3900 per c.c. No tubercular bacilli.
12	B & Bi	Undesignated Milk ...	Cleanliness Tuberculosis	Methylene Blue Test satisfactory. B. Coli in 1/1000th c.c. No tubercular bacilli.
13	B & Bi	Milk (Loose) ...	Cleanliness ... Tuberculosis	Methylene Blue Test unsatisfactory. B. Coli in 1/1000th c.c. No tubercular bacilli.
14	C	Drinking water	Purity	Satisfactory.
15	B	Drinking water ...	Purity ...	Satisfactory. No B. Coli.
16	C	Drinking water	Purity	Satisfactory
17	B	Drinking water	Purity	Unsatisfactory.
18	B & Bi	Pasteurised Milk	Cleanliness Tuberculosis	Phosphatase test satisfactory. Bacteriological count 1500 per c.c. No tubercular bacilli.
19	B & Bi	Pasteurised Milk ...	Cleanliness Tuberculosis	Phosphatase test satisfactory. Bacteriological count 900 per c.c. No tubercular bacilli.
20	B & Bi	Undesignated Milk ...	Cleanliness ... Tuberculosis	Phosphatase test satisfactory. Bacteriological count 7200 per c.c. No tubercular bacilli.
21	C	Drinking water ...	Purity ...	Satisfactory
22	B	Drinking water ...	Purity ...	Unsatisfactory
23	C	Drinking water ...	Purity	Satisfactory
24	B	Drinking water	Purity	Satisfactory

TABLE III.

No. of Visits		CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.							PARTICULARS OF MEAT CONDEMNED AND DESTROYED.					
Markets	Slaughter-houses	Particulars	Cattle ex-cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Details	Disease or cause of destruction	Approximate Weight				
										Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	
108	372	Number killed (approximate) ...	101	—	36	300	20,800	10 Pig carcasses and organs Pork	Tubercular Do.	—	18	3	6	
		Number inspected ...	66	—	25	196	17,762	1211 Pig heads 5 Pig carcasses and organs Pork	Do. Moribund and ill bled Bruising Pleurisy	— — — —	5 18 9 2	0 3 5 2	2 3 25 14	
		ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.							86 Pig Livers	Cirrhosis (Milk Spots)	—	—	—	—
		Whole Carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	5	356 Frys 2 Pig Livers	Tubercular Fatty degeneration Cysts	—	13	1	8	
		Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	4	—	—	4	312	2 Pig Livers	Tubercular Congestion Pleurisy Inflammation Abscesses	—	2	2	4	
		Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	6.1	—	—	2.04	1.7	14 Pigs' hearts 193 Pigs. mesenteries 13 Do. 10 Pigs' stomachs 7 Do. 3 Beast heads 4 Beast livers 1 Beast carcass 3 Sheep's lungs 1 Sheep liver	Pericarditis Tubercular Inflammation Tubercular Inflammation Tubercular Cirrhosis	— — — — — — — — —	— — — — — — — — —	— — — — — — — — —		
		TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.							10 Pigs' stomachs 7 Do. 3 Beast heads 4 Beast livers 1 Beast carcass 3 Sheep's lungs 1 Sheep liver	Tubercular Strongylus Rufescens Distomatosis	—	5	1	12
		Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	—	—	—	10	MARKETS	Cirrhosis	—	—	—	—	
		Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	3	—	—	—	1,211	1 Beasts liver	Cirrhosis	—	—	—	—	
		Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	6.1	—	—	—	6.9							
									Total Weight	9	18	3	18	

Offensive Trades.

One application for the consent of the Local Authority to the establishment of a fish frying business within the Borough was received but not granted.

Factories.

The Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health respecting the administration of the Factories Act, 1937, is shown in Table XI.

The Factories in respect of which the provisions of Sections 1 to 8 of the Factories Act, 1937, apply have been periodically visited and the regulations respecting cleanliness, overcrowding, ventilation, drainage of floors and sanitary conveniences were, with few exceptions, found satisfactory and where required the necessary work was carried out to make them satisfactory.

Other Factories.

Other factories were inspected from time to time with respect to the sanitary conveniences when they were found to generally comply with the Statute.

Outworkers.

When lists have been received containing names and addresses of homeworkers, the premises have been visited and found to be in order.

Bakehouses.

These have been visited from time to time and generally found in fair order.

Smoke Abatement.

In several cases observations were taken and the occupiers of the premises communicated with, with the result that in some cases there was a lessening of smoke owing to better arrangements for stoking. In others, patent furnaces were installed. In the one case, however, although the nuisance from smoke was abated, there is trouble from the emission of grit and it is hoped that by readjustment of the plant to overcome this difficulty.

Allotments and Insect Pests.

The allotments were visited periodically to see that the allotments rules were complied with and literature was distributed to the allottees.

More than 71 acres were cultivated as allotments, of which more than 37 acres were under the direct supervision of the Council.

Table IV gives particulars respecting allotments in the Borough.

It should be noted that some of the land now cultivated as allotments was purchased for housing and will ultimately be used for that purpose.

TABLE IV.

PARTICULARS	No. of Allottees	AREA.		
		Acres	Roods	Poles
1. Land purchased by Council ...	240	29	1	30
3. Other land held by the Council and used for Allotments ...	136	8	2	—
4. Private Allotments ...	450	32	—	30
Total ...	826	70	—	20
Number of applications and area of land applied for ...	63	2	—	—
Number of applications and total area of land applied for and not granted ...	—	—	—	—

Respecting the 38 acres of land used as allotments and supervised by the Council, the gross expenditure was £214 and the gross income £67, the expenditure over income being £147 or a charge on the rates equal to £3 17s. 4d. per acre.

REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

Period of Report.

The report generally is for the year ended 31st December, 1938, but so far as the figures refer to the collection and disposal of refuse, the year is taken as ending on the 31st March, 1939. This is in order that the figures may be easily compared with former years and synchronise with the Corporation's ledgers, and it is possible to give more actual instead of estimated figures.

Particulars for the Year 1937-38.

The figures given in Table VI are taken from the Corporation's books and show the particulars for the year ended 31st March, 1938, the latest complete details available.

Particulars for the Year 1938-39.

Staff. The number of men employed was 23, comprising :

Foreman :	General	...	...	...	...	1
Others :	Collection	...	...	...	...	17
	Disposal	...	...	...	...	4
	Yardman	...	...	...	...	1

Vehicles. The vehicles were as follows :

- One 3-ton "Karrier" Mechanical Refuse Collecting Vehicle.
- One 2-ton "Ford" Mechanical Refuse Collecting Vehicle.
- Seven horses and carts, and
- One 1-ton "Morris" van (ex ambulance).

Closet Accommodation :

Privies	...	...	...	...	...	29
Waste water closets	...	...	...	...	...	139
Water closets	...	...	...	...	...	8625

In 1927 there were 275 waste water closets and 1,430 privies and pail closets.

Refuse Receptacles.

Privy Middens	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ashpits	...	...	...	...	...	31
Dust Bins	...	...	...	...	...	9590
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	19

Collection. The refuse from dust bins is removed once in seven days, and from ashpits, privies, privy middens and cesspools when required.

Weight of Refuse. As the refuse was not passed over a weigh-bridge, an occasional load was weighed and taken as an average, and the total weight of refuse estimated from the number of loads. 8,525 loads of refuse were collected and the average weight of refuse, including all vehicles was 22 cwt. per load, the number of inhabited houses in the Borough being 8,168, which gives the following details :—

Total weight of refuse	...	...	9,378 tons
Weight per 1,000 houses	...	...	1,148 tons
Weight per 1,000 population per day (365 days)	...	...	15.4 cwts.

Disposal. The refuse is deposited on low-lying ground and is well covered with soil or other suitable refuse the same day. About 200 tons of the more objectionable refuse was destroyed in the incinerator.

All the refuse, with the exception of 137 loads, was deposited at the four tips, viz., Moxley, Blackhams, Manor Road and the Mounts. The refuse was covered and the tips kept in an orderly manner. The amount deposited at each tip is shown in Table V.

The average haul to place of disposal was half a mile.

The methods of collection and disposal are as follows :—

Collection.				Loads.	Tons.	Percentage of Refuse collected.
Horse Vehicles	...	...	...	6685	7354	78.4
Mechanical Vehicles	...	...	...	1840	2024	21.6
Disposal.					Tons.	Percentage of Total.
Controlled Tipping	...	...	...	...	9178	96.6
Incineration	...	...	...	...	200	3.4
Total				...	9378	100.0

The gross expenditure was £4,965 and the gross income £209, the net cost being £4,756 ; collection, £3,835, and disposal, £921.

The unit costs were :—

Collection 8s. 2d. per ton ; Disposal 1s. 10d per ton. Total 10s. 0d. per ton.

Cost per 1,000 houses :—

Collection £469 5s. 0d. ; Disposal £113 ; Total £582 5s. 0d.

TABLE V.
COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1939

	No. OF RECEPTACLES EMPTIED AND CLEANED					No. OF LOADS OF REFUSE REMOVED						WHERE DEPOSITED							
	Privy Middens	Privy Cisterns	Dry Ashpits	Dust Bins	Cesspools	Dry Refuse	Mixed Refuse	From Cesspools	Trade Refuse	TOTAL	Percentage of Mixed Refuse	Moxley	Blackham's	Manor Road	Mounds	O thers	TOTAL		
	76	33	15	379387	40	8000	41	133	351	8525	2·04	2	4003	3	4380	137	8525		

TABLE VI.

HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE ACCOUNT for year ended 31st March, 1938.

	COLLECTION.		DISPOSAL.		TOTAL.	
	Including Depreciation on Loan Charges	Excluding Depreciation on Loan Charges	Including Depreciation on Loan Charges	Excluding Depreciation on Loan Charges	Including Depreciation on Loan Charges	Excluding Depreciation on Loan Charges
REVENUE ACCOUNT:	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Gross Expenditure	4200 0 0	4036 0 0	1128 0 0	1114 0 0	5329 0 0	5150 0 0
Gross Income	105 0 0	105 0 0	110 0 0	110 0 0	216 0 0	216 0 0
Net Cost.....	4095 0 0	3930 0 0	1017 0 0	1003 0 0	5112 0 0	4933 0 0
UNIT COSTS:						
Gross Expenditure, per ton	8 3.0	7 11.1	2 2.6	2 2.2	10 5.6	10 1.4
Gross Income, per ton	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	5.1	5.1
Net Cost per ton.....	8 0.5	7 8.6	2 0.0	1 11.6	10 0.5	9 8.3
Net Cost per 1,000 of the population	123 12 1	118 12 11	30 14 8	30 5 6	154 6 6	148 18 6
Net Cost per 1,000 houses ...	511 10 0	490 19 8	127 2 5	125 5 11	638 12 6	616 5 7
RATE POUNDAGE:						
Net Cost, equivalent rate in £	8.2	7.9	2.0	2.0	10.2	9.9
Percentage of equivalent rate to total rate in the £	4.3%	4.1%	1.0%	1.0%	5.3%	5.1%

Area of Borough 2,025 acres. Rateable Value, £139,112. Total Refuse collected 10,178 tons. No. of Houses 8,006
 Total Rates in £, 16s. Disposal: Controlled Tipping 9,978 tons; Incinerator 200 tons. Population 33,130.
 Product of a Penny Rate £500. Weight in cwt. per 1,000 per day (365 days) 16.9 cwt.

TABLE VII.

Particulars of Inspections made and Visits paid during 1938.

Housing Inspections	...	...	...	...	778
Other Inspections	...	...	...	...	2531
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	771
Visits to Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	384
„ Markets	...	...	...	...	132
„ Shops	...	...	...	...	348
„ Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops			...	...	157
„ Common Lodging Houses		...	...	...	12
„ Factories	...	...	...	...	178
„ Respecting Infectious Disease...			...	...	219
„ Respecting Disinfestation		...	...	...	372
					<hr/> 5882 <hr/>
Number of Preliminary Notices	...	...	...	...	195
Number of Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	57
Number of Letters written to Owners re Nuisances				...	179
Reports sent to Surveyor re Dangerous Buildings				...	3
Reports sent to Water Company re Waste of Water				...	—
Number of Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	56
Number of Houses disinfested where occupants were removed to Council houses	...	...	...	...	447

TABLE VIII

NOTICES SERVED AND NUMBER OF HOUSES IN
CONNECTION WITH NOTICES.

NATURE OF DEFECTS.	Preliminary Notices		Statutory Notices	
	Notices served.	No. of Houses in connection with Notices.	Notices served.	No. of Houses in connection with Notices.
Filthy and dilapidated dwelling-houses	52	78	19	31
Filthy and dilapidated out-buildings	23	32	1	1
Defective paving and surface channels	3	7	1	1
Defective eaves and down spouting...	2	3	—	—
Insufficient drainage	3	5	3	12
Foul, untrapped or defective drainage	—	—	—	—
Choked drainage and water closets ...	8	23	1	1
Insufficient ashpit accommodation ...	23	35	2	12
Insufficient closet accommodation ...	2	3	2	12
Insanitary ashpits	—	—	—	—
Insanitary sinks	—	—	—	—
Fouling of sanitary conveniences used in common	—	—	—	—
Overcrowded houses or rooms	—	—	1	1
Animals improperly kept	—	—	—	—
Offensive accumulations	3	6	2	1
Water in cellars	4	5	—	—
Houses unfit for human habitation ...	5	16	12	25
Polluted wells	—	—	—	—
Dangerous wells or cisterns	—	—	—	—
Insufficient water supply	2	2	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops	15	15	—	—
Bakehouses	6	6	—	—
Factories and workshops	21	21	—	—
Common lodging houses	—	—	—	—
Houses let in lodgings	—	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses	—	—	—	—
Defective roofs	—	—	—	—
Defective and dangerous chimneys ...	1	1	—	—
Dangerous boundary walls	5	4	—	—
Defective sanitary accommodation for workmen	5	5	—	—
Defective water closet connections ...	3	9	—	—
Insanitary waste water closets	1	4	—	—
Unfit houses requiring demolition ...	—	—	13	35
Emission of smoke, etc.	1	1	—	—
Butchers' shops	2	2	—	—
Fish shops	5	5	—	—
TOTALS ...	195	288	57	132

TABLE IX.

RESULT OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Situation of Premises.	Nature of Complaint.	Statute under which proceedings were taken.	Result.
The Mounts ...	Occupation of unfit hut.	Public Health Act, 1936	Order to cease occupying and pay costs.
110/112, Walsall Road, King's Hill	Nuisance—General Defects	Public Health Act, 1936	Work done ; case withdrawn on payment of costs

TABLE X.

**Sanitary Improvements carried out in pursuance of Inspections
made and Notices served.**

Interior of Houses.

Filthy houses cleansed and limewashed	...	...	14
Houses in which repairs to plastering or woodwork have been carried out	...	...	77
Flooded cellars drained	...	...	4

Exterior of Houses.

Defective roofs made water-tight	...	...	19
Houses without eaves or down-spouting, or with choked or defective spouting, new spouting provided, or existing spouting cleansed and repaired	...	...	5
Dangerous chimneys repaired	...	...	1
New earthenware sinks provided in lieu of brick sinks	...	...	13

Yards and Outbuildings.

Surface paving in yards provided, renewed or repaired	7
Dangerous wells or cisterns filled in or suitable covers provided 	—
Filthy and dilapidated outbuildings cleansed and repaired	17

Drainage.

Absence of, or insufficient or defective, drainage	...	53
Number of inspection chambers provided to drainage systems	... ..	12
Additional gullies fixed	... ..	29
Choked drains opened and cleansed	... ..	137

Privies, Water Closets and Ashpits.

Privies abolished	12
Middens abolished	...	...	...	...	6
Water closets with flush cisterns substituted for privies					12
Additional water closets provided	...	...	...		7
Fresh water closets substituted for waste water closets					—
Dust Bins provided	...	...	...	...	97
Dry ashpits abolished	...	...	...	...	—
Insufficient water supply to water closets; flush provided	...	...	...	...	—
Defective water closet connections repaired	...	...	...	...	11

Water Supply.

Houses without a proper supply of drinking water	...	—
Stand pipes abolished	... ..	—
Water taps fixed in wash-houses or houses	... ..	7

Keeping Animals and Offensive Accumulations.

Nuisance from keeping swine abated	... ..	—
Offensive accumulations removed from premises	...	3
Nuisances from the keeping of fowl or other poultry abated	... ..	—

Overcrowding.

Houses overcrowded ; numbers reduced	7
--------------------------------------	--------	---

Miscellaneous.

Filthy yards, sanitary conveniences and approaches thereto cleansed by occupiers	5
--	--------	---

Housing.

Houses unfit for human habitation closed or demolished		43
Back-to-back houses abolished	... ..	—
Vans removed from district	... ..	—

Cowsheds and Dairies.

Cowsheds provided with additional lighting	—
Cowsheds provided with additional ventilation	...	—
Dairy accommodation provided, cleansed, limewashed or improved	... ..	11

Factories and Workshops.

Workshops or workrooms cleansed	... ..	20
Insufficient closet accommodation : water closets provided		1
Unsuitable or defective closet accommodation : water closets repaired	... ..	1
Sanitary accommodation not separate for sexes : water closets provided	... ..	—
Urinals provided	... ..	—
Miscellaneous sanitary improvements : cleansing sanitary conveniences, overcrowding	... ..	15

TABLE XI.

ANNUAL REPORT on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, and the Factories Act, 1937 (which superseded the Act of 1901 on the 1st July, 1938).

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power ...	97	39	—
Factories without mechanical power ...			
Other Premises under the Act ... (including works of building and engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises)	—	34	—
Totals	97	73	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness	20	20	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation... ..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :—				
Insufficient	3	1	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—
Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—
Other Offences	10	8	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the M. of H. (F. and W. Transfer of Powers) O., 1921 and re-enacted in the 3rd Schedule to F.A., 1937).				
Totals	35	31	—	—

TABLE XI.—*continued.*

3.—REGISTERED WORK SHOPS.		4.—OTHER MATTERS.	
Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.	No.	Class.	No.
Acetylene Welders ...	1	Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories ...	—
Bakers ...	15		
Bags ...	1		
Boots and Shoes ...	12	Failure to affix Abstracts of Factories Act, 1937 ...	—
Breezes ...	2		
Black and Coachsmiths ...	3		
Carpenters and Joiners ...	4	Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factories Act, 1937 ...	—
Cabinet and Pattern Makers	4		
Clothiers and Tailors ...	2		
Coopers ...	1		
Dressmakers ...	2		
Forges ...	1		
Files ...	1		
Greases and Oil ...	1	Notified by H.M. Inspector...	3
Gun Locks ...	2		
Hosiery ...	1	Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ...	5
Millinery ...	1		
Mason ...	1		
Motor Garages ...	10		
Plumbers and Painters ...	3		
Sugar Boiler ...	1		
Wheelwright ...	1		
Weighing Machines ...	1		
Total number on Register	71		

1st January, 1939.

(Signed) A. H. KYNASTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

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